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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :Michael Weiss, et al.

Serial No. :09/768,129

Filed :January 23, 2001

For :CACHING MECHANISM TO OPTIMIZE A BIDDING  
PROCESS USED TO SELECT RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Art Unit :2643

Atty. Docket No. :SMBZ 2 00915

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

SEP 09 2003

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Specification begin on page 7 of this paper.